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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EAGR](#) [ETRD](#) [TBIO](#) [AM](#)
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: THE THIRD MEETING OF THE
CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

REF: STATE 34706

Sensitive but unclassified. Please protect accordingly.

(SBU) We delivered reftel points to First Deputy Minister of Agriculture Samvel Avetisyan and Ministry of Foreign Affairs Americas Desk Head Lilit Toutkhalian on March 9. Avetisyan and Toutkhalian said that the GOAM currently does not intend to participate in the Meeting of Parties scheduled for March 13-17, but could be represented by the Armenian Consul, who lives in Sao Paulo, if necessary. Avetisyan said that the GOAM respects its obligations under the WTO, but needs flexibility concerning regulation of living and genetically modified organisms because Armenia exports agricultural products to the European Union. Avetisyan agreed to raise our concerns with the Minister and to notify us if Armenia decides to participate in the meeting.
EVANS